

REMARKS

In response to the communication mailed July 30, 2003, Applicants hereby provisionally elect the method claims of Group I (claims 15-16), with traverse. Claims 21-32 are drawn to a method of manufacturing a circuit board and properly belong in the same group as claims 15-16. The Examiner is requested to reconsider the Restriction Requirement because both groups of claims are drawn to subject matter which is so related that an undue burden would not be placed upon the Examiner by maintaining both groups of claims in a single application. See, e.g., MPEP § 803. The Office Action states that both groups are in the same class.

Please note that Applicants amended claim 21 to recite the order of steps found in claim 15. The Restriction Requirement should be reconsidered and withdrawn. Since all pending claims are directed to a method of manufacturing a circuit board, the restriction requirement is moot.

If the Examiner believes that personal communication will expedite prosecution of this application, the Examiner is invited to telephone the undersigned at (248) 641-1600.

Respectfully submitted,

Dated: Aug 29, 2003

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